

Waterbird/Raptor Survey  
09/25/06

Total waterfowl around 189,000 about 20,000 short of the long-term average for this week in September. Higher numbers this year, compared to last year. About 12% of birds counted were seen from the tour loop and 7% were within the hunt units. Total number of shorebirds around 17,000 which is about 5,000 higher than the long-term average. Almost all the Ibis have departed for more southern climes. Record high counts of eared grebes, northern harriers and...ring-billed gulls?! Recent rains have raised river levels allowing gradual re-filling of Refuge wetland units. Will likely be near full target at the beginning of waterfowl season.

We have a confirmed botulism die-off of around 2,500 waterfowl out on Willard Spur/Refuge southern boundary. This has attracted turkey vultures and northern harriers, seen feeding on carcasses.

Canada Goose	1643
Mallard	19,220
Pintail	38,393
GW Teal	27,320
BW Teal	3
Cinnamon Teal	20
Shoveler	35478
Gadwall	22,026
A. Wigeon	25,740
Unk. Dabbler	1900
Canvasback	5755
Redhead	1946
Ring-necked Duck	17
Ruddy Duck	9012
Pied-billed Grebe	4
Eared Grebe	2343
Western Grebe	87
Clark's Grebe	36
A.W. Pelican	192
DC Cormorant	482
Great Blue Heron	41
Great Egret	1
Snowy Egret	24
BC Night Heron	10
White-faced Ibis	80
Killdeer	1
Black-necked Stilt	94
American Avocet	2533
Greater Yellowlegs	25
Marbled Godwit	10131
Western Sandpiper	4
Dowitchers	4695
Wilson's Phalarope	2
Franklin's Gull	160
RB Gull	5445
California gull	270
Forster's Tern	6
Black Tern	28
Coot	26480

Sandhill Crane	2	
Turkey vulture	2	
Northern Harrier		23
Red-tailed Hawk	1	
Peregrine Falcon	1	

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